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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/034,273

12/28/2001

David Chatenever

02580-P0006B

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08/20/2008

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EXAMINER

HENN, TIMOTHY J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2622

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

08/20/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4, 6 and 8-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.
2. In the response filed, Applicant provides a definition for "software program" and argues that the provided references do not teach a "software program" as defined. However, the examiner disagrees. As defined by Applicant, a software program includes "written programs or procedures or rules pertaining to the operation of a computer system". The information described by Nakamura and Steinberg meets at least the "procedures" portion of this definition since it defines the steps which are taken by the system when image data is input to be processed.
3. Applicant further argues that the system of Mochida can not be modified as claimed. Specifically Applicant argues that if the control unit 44 were moved to the expansion substrate the system would no longer function. However, it is unclear why moving the control unit is necessary as argued by Applicant. Mochida already discloses an expansion substrate including a processor (e.g. FPGA; Figure 1, Items 41-43; Paragraphs 0227-0239) which configures the expansion substrate to process image data. Since the examiner has not proposed modifying the system of Mochida by moving the control unit as argued by Applicant, this argument is believed to not be relevant to the rejection of the claims.
4. With respect to Steinberg, Applicant argues that the device 10 of Steinberg is not "in said camera control unit". However, the claims as written do not require all

components to be included in a single housing as Applicant appears to be arguing. Furthermore, it is not believed that a CCU by definition must be entirely enclosed within a single housing. It is further noted that device 10 of Steinberg is connected directly to the computer 14 in a removably manner via a cable which is plugged into the computer and can therefore the two devices may be considered a single system or "unit" as claimed.

5. Applicant further argues that the device 10 is not connected to both the camera 12 and computer 14. While the examiner does not agree that this feature is claimed, it is noted that the device 10 may be connected to both the camera and computer simultaneously. As shown in Figure 1, the device 10 may be connected to the computer 14 via cable 26 while simultaneously being connected to camera 12 via wireless communication link 44.

6. Applicant further argues that device 10 is not a camera control unit. Specifically Applicant argues that device 10 only facilitates movement of data to a destination and does not process image data. However, the examiner disagrees. Steinberg explicitly discloses that the device 10 provides control for the camera (c. 5, ll. 18-29) and further explicitly discloses that the device 10 processes received data (Figure 8; c. 8, ll. 46- 67). Therefore, Applicant's arguments are not considered persuasive and do not put the application into condition for allowance.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Timothy J. Henn whose telephone number is (571)272-7310. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 11-7.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lin Ye can be reached on (571) 272-7372. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Timothy J Henn/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2622